

August 8, 2007

219990

The Honorable Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
Attn: STB Ex Parte No. 670
395 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

**Rc: Ex Parte No. 670, *Establishment of the
Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee***

Dear Secretary Williams:

I am pleased to nominate and recommend Dan Kuehn of the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) to serve as a member of the Rail Energy Transportation Advisory Committee (RETAC) to be established by the Surface Transportation Board (STB). RETAC is being established by the STB to consist of a broad cross-section of rail service providers, producers, and consumers of energy products. I believe that Dan Kuehn would be an excellent addition to the committee.

Dan serves as Executive Manager, Wholesale Power Services, for the LCRA. LCRA is a conservation and reclamation district of the State of Texas. As part of its mission, LCRA operates a not-for-profit electric system that exists to serve the wholesale electric needs of its Texas consumers. LCRA supplies wholesale electricity to 43 municipalities and electric cooperatives, representing more than 1 million people in 53 counties in Central Texas. LCRA is ranked as one of the Nation's largest public power producers.

LCRA has as a central mission providing consumers with reliable and affordable electric power, most of which is derived from fossil fuels and domestic coal that is transported long distances by railroad. Electricity reliability, of course, requires dependable rail service from railroads to deliver and meet the fuel requirements of electric generating stations. Low sulfur coal delivered by rail has been an affordable fuel for generation of electricity for Texas electric customers.

Dan has been intimately involved in the procurement of reliable and cost-effective energy transportation services for LCRA for over 25 years. His knowledge and expertise of the issues to be considered by RETAC, would be an invaluable member of

the committee. Also, Texas remains one of the largest consumers (and producers) of energy in the Nation, much of which is moved by rail. Dan would do an excellent job in representing the interests of the energy consumers of the state, the region, and all public and non-public providers of power. And finally, Dan is well known and regarded in the industry, and he would help foster an open dialogue among energy producers, railroads, and consumers of energy resources.

I highly recommend Dan to be nominated to RETAC, and commend him to your favorable consideration.

Respectfully yours,

Mark Werner
Director - Energy Market Operations